

Film suggestions for the holidays (to be found on VOD?)

UK historical films

The Other Boleyn Girl (*Deux sœurs pour un roi*) Two ferociously ambitious sisters, Mary and Anne Boleyn, are rivals for the bed and heart of the 16th century English king Henry VIII.

The Favourite (2018) : *In early 18th century England, a frail Queen Anne occupies the throne and her close friend, Lady Sarah, governs the country in her stead. When a new servant, Abigail, arrives, her charm endears her to Sarah.*

Victoria and Abdul (*Confident Royal*) *The extraordinary true story of an unexpected friendship in the later years of Queen Victoria's (Academy Award winner Judi Dench) remarkable rule. When Abdul Karim (Ali Fazal), a young clerk, travels from India to participate in the Queen's Golden Jubilee, he is surprised to find favor with the Queen herself.*

The Queen (2007) : *This is the story of the death of Princess Diana of Wales and the relationship between British Prime Minister Tony Blair and the British Royal Family upon hearing of her death.*

The Duchess (2008) : *A chronicle of the life of 18th-century aristocrat Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, who was reviled for her extravagant political and personal life. (with Keira Knightley)*

Made in Dagenham (*We want sex equality*) *A dramatization of the 1968 strike at the Ford Dagenham car plant, where female workers walked out in protest against sexual discrimination.*

British comedies / humour

The Boat that rocked (*Good Morning England*) *A band of rogue DJs that captivated Britain, playing the music that defined a generation and standing up to a government that wanted classical music, and nothing else, on the airwaves.*

Pride : *PRIDE is inspired by an extraordinary true story. It's the summer of 1984, Margaret Thatcher is in power and the National Union of Mineworkers is on strike, prompting a London-based group of gay and lesbian activists to raise money to support the strikers'*

families. Initially rebuffed by the Union, the group identifies a tiny mining village in Wales and sets off to make their donation in person. As the strike drags on, the two groups discover that standing together makes for the strongest union of all. (C) CBS. (Funny, one of my favourites)

The Englishman Who Went Up a Hill but Came Down a Mountain (*l'Anglais qui gravit une colline et descendit une montagne*) Two English cartographers visit the small South Wales village of Ffynnon Garw, to measure what is claimed to be the "first mountain inside of Wales". It's 1917, and the war in Europe continues. The villagers are very proud of their "mountain", and are understandably disappointed and furious to find that it is in fact a "hill". Not to be outwitted by a rule (and the Englishmen who enforce it), the villagers set out to make their hill into a mountain, but to do so they must keep the English from leaving, before the job is done. (Imdb)

The Party directed by [Sally Potter](#) British [black comedy](#) Janet, A politician for the [opposition party](#), has just been announced as [shadow minister for health](#) and is having a small celebratory that is not going to take place as planned.

Four weddings and a funeral: Charles and Carrie would make the perfect couple...if he weren't afraid to commit and she weren't already engaged! Fun-filled, clever and charming, this delightful comedy is simply irresistible.

British literature

Romeo + Juliet The classic Shakespearean romantic tragedy is updated by director Baz Luhrmann to a post-modern Verona Beach where swords are merely a brand of gun and bored youths are easily spurred toward violence. Romeo (Leonardo DiCaprio)

Much ado about nothing (*Beaucoup de bruit pour rien*) (Shakespeare) this lively version of one of Shakespeare's best comedies

Little women (2019) (*Les filles du Docteur March*) : Jo March (Saoirse Ronan) reflects back and forth on her life, telling the beloved story of the March sisters - four young women each determined to live life on her own terms. (Imdb) with Emma Watson, Timothée Chalamet

Pride and Prejudice : *Jane Austen's popular story of the game of love among the British upper classes returns to the screen in this polished film adaptation. The Bennets (Brenda Blethyn and Donald Sutherland) are the parents of five daughters near the close of the 18th century. Comfortable within their means but well short of rich, Mr. and Mrs. Bennet are looking for suitable husbands for their girls. (with Keira Knightley, (Rosamund Pike)*

The remains of the day : (*Les Vestiges du Jour*) : *A butler who sacrificed body and soul to service in the years leading up to World War II realizes too late how misguided his loyalty was to his lordly employer (on Netflix)*

Scotland

Braveheart :*an account of the life and times of medieval Scottish patriot William Wallace and, to a lesser degree, Robert the Bruce's struggle to unify his nation against its English oppressors.*

Mary Queen of Scots (2018) *"Mary Queen of Scots" explores the turbulent life of the charismatic Mary Stuart (Ronan). Queen of France at 16 and widowed at 18, Mary defies pressure to remarry. Instead, she returns to her native Scotland to reclaim her rightful throne. But Scotland and England fall under the rule of the compelling Elizabeth I (Robbie). Each young Queen beholds her "sister" in fear and fascination. Rivals in power and in love, and female regents in a masculine world, the two must decide how to play the game of marriage versus independence. Determined to rule as much more than a figurehead, Mary asserts her claim to the English throne, threatening Elizabeth's sovereignty. Betrayal, rebellion, and conspiracies within each court imperil both thrones - and change the course of history. (with Saoirse Ronan)*

Outlander series : *Scotland in the 18th century, before Culloden. After seeing her husband return from the Second World War, Claire Randall and her husband go on a second honeymoon only for Claire to fall through time back to 1740s Scotland. Soon the people of 1743 Scotland become suspicious of her and think she might be an English spy.*

Trainspotting ; *A brutal, often times funny, other times terrifying portrayal of drug addiction in Edinburgh. Not for the faint of heart, but well worth viewing as a realistic and entertaining reminder of the horrors of drug use.*

Local Hero : *This film stars Burt Lancaster as Texas oil baron Felix Happer, who sends employee MacIntyre as an emissary to a Scottish fishing village to negotiate for the rights to the town's oil reserves. Surprisingly, the Scots are more than anxious to sell, and MacIntyre's trip becomes progressively stranger.*

Shallow grave : (*Petits meurtres entre amis*) *Three friends in Edinburgh, Scotland, interview and select a new flatmate. He's hardly moved in than they discover him dead in his room. An ethical dilemma ensues when they discover that he possessed a large amount of cash. Things get worse as the men whose money it was search for it, and the three friends start to turn on each other. Written by [grantss](#)*

The Angels' Share : (*La part des Anges*) Winner of the Jury Prize at the Cannes Film festival, legendary director Ken Loach , one of Britain's most distinguished and respected filmmakers. Robbie, a young ne'er do well (Paul Brannigan), a broke new father with a good heart is in serious trouble with the law. When he holds his newborn son for the first time, roguish Robbie is determined that the boy will have a better life, one with more opportunities than he has been offered in this insular, blue collar world. But first Robbie must sort out a variety of pressing problems. He is given a lucky break by a judge who shows mercy, granting him community service instead of jail. Here he meets Rhino, Albert and Mo, former petty criminals also down on their luck. (c) IFC Films

British Series :

Wolf Hall : on life in the court of Henry the VIII court and his counselor Thomas Cromwell

Victoria (UK) : on Queen Victoria's life

Downton Abbey : British [historical drama](#) television series set in the early 20th century. The series, set in the fictional [Yorkshire country estate](#) of Downton Abbey between 1912 and 1926, depicts the lives of the [aristocratic](#) Crawley family and their [domestic servants](#) in the post-[Edwardian era](#)—with the great events of the time having an effect on their lives and on the [British social hierarchy](#)

Misfits (UK) :[British science fiction comedy-drama](#) television show, on [E4](#), about a group of young offenders sentenced to work in a [community service](#) programme, where they obtain [supernatural powers](#) after a strange [electrical storm](#).

Docteur Who dernière saison (la 12) de Doctor Who, maintenant [entièrement disponible sur France TV](#)

Spooks(MI5 en français) *This British espionage thriller centers on a team of MI-5 counter-terrorist spies collectively known as 'Spooks' because of the shadowy nature of their existence. Technically speaking, Spooks don't even exist--they have no names, identities, or known locations. Yet these secret agents are all that stand between the nation and the terrorists who try to undermine national security. (2002-2011) 10 SEASONS*

Ireland (comedy)

Waking Ned Devine (*Vieilles canailles*) *The lucky winner of the national lottery Ned Devine died from the shock of it! News of the win spread quickly in the scenic little Irish village of Tully More, but not the secret news of Ned's demise. With lottery officials closing in to confirm the prize claimed by the deceased Devine, Ned's closest friends scheme to keep the prize money close to home, in memory of Ned of course! But as the plot twists humorously, they learn it is hard is to keep such a secret in a small town. Written by OBGriffiths@yahoo.com (Imdb)*

US

Some like it hot:*Two struggling musicians witness the St. Valentine's Day Massacre and are now on the run from the Mob. Jerry and Joe cross-dress into an all female band. In addition to hiding, each has his own problems; One falls for another band member but can't tell her his gender, and the other has a rich suitor who will not take "No," for an answer.(1959)*

Gone with the wind : *A manipulative woman and a roguish man conduct a turbulent romance during the American Civil War and Reconstruction periods.*

Dead Poet Society (*Le Cercle des Poètes disparus*) *English teacher John Keating inspires his students to look at poetry with a different perspective of authentic knowledge and feelings.*

Little Miss Sunshine : *Indie US film. When a pudgy, bespectacled seven-year-old, Olive (Abigail Breslin), voices her desire to take home the coveted Little Miss Sunshine crown at an upcoming beauty pageant, her wildly dysfunctional family sets out on an interstate road trip to ensure her a clear shot at realizing her dreams. Little Miss Sunshine was an overwhelming box office success, attaining \$100.5 million, and received critical acclaim, mainly for the performances of the cast and humor.*

My fair lady : a classic musical. Snobbish phonetics Professor Henry Higgins agrees to a wager that he can make flower girl Eliza Doolittle presentable in high society.

West Side Story : a classic musical. Two youngsters from rival New York City gangs fall in love, but tensions between their respective friends build toward tragedy.

Juno (comedy) When a teenage girl is faced with an unexpected pregnancy, she enlists the aid of her best friend in finding the unborn child a suitable home in this coming-of-age comedy drama.

Forrest Gump : The presidencies of Kennedy and Johnson, the events of Vietnam, Watergate, and other historical events unfold through the perspective of an Alabama man with an IQ of 75, whose only desire is to be reunited with his childhood sweetheart. (on Netflix)

Good Morning Vietnam : In 1965, an unorthodox and irreverent DJ named [Adrian Cronauer](#) begins to shake up things when he is assigned to the U.S. Armed Services radio station in Vietnam.

The Butler (le Majordome) : historical movies (US) LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER tells the story of a White House butler who served eight American presidents over three decades. The film traces the dramatic changes that swept American society during this time, from the civil rights movement to Vietnam and beyond, and how those changes affected this man's life and family.

South Africa

Cry Freedom: A powerful drama that helped expose to the world the malfeasance of South African apartheid, Cry Freedom chronicles the fact-based friendship between an outspoken white newspaper editor and the South African pacifistic civil-rights activist, Steve Biko. After Biko suspiciously dies, Woods, though forced to flee the country with his family, continues to broadcast Biko's message to the world.(1987)

- **Invictus** : The film tells the inspiring true story of how Nelson Mandela joined forces with the captain of South Africa's rugby team to help unite their country. Newly elected President Mandela knows his nation remains racially and economically divided in the wake of apartheid. Believing he can bring his people together through the universal language of

sport, Mandela rallies South Africa's underdog rugby team as they make an unlikely run to the 1995 World Cup Championship match.

Australia

- **Muriel's wedding** (*Muriel*) : Comedy. *The unconventional Muriel (Toni Collette) is deeply unsatisfied with her life, stuck in the nowhere town of Porpoise Spit and feeling rejected by her friends and family. Believing herself unattractive and worthless, she seeks meager solace in ABBA songs and fantasies of gorgeous weddings, with herself as the bride. Muriel's life takes a turn for the better, however, when she befriends the carefree Rhonda (Rachel Griffiths), who encourages her to take control of her life. Together, the two women travel to Sydney, where a series of liberating experiences help Muriel develop self-esteem and take the first steps towards maturity. ~ Judd Blaise, Rovi*

India

The Lunchbox *A mistaken delivery in Mumbai's famously efficient lunchbox delivery system connects a young housewife to an older man in the dusk of his life as they build a fantasy world together through notes in the lunchbox.*

Slumdog millionaire *Jamal Malik, an 18 year-old orphan from the slums of Mumbai, is about to experience the biggest day of his life. With the whole nation watching, he is just one question away from winning a staggering 20-million rupees on India's "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?" But when the show breaks for the night, police arrest him on suspicion of cheating; how could a street kid know so much?*

AI / Robots

Her *a man falls in love with his operating system*

Robot and Franck : comedy *Set in the near future, Frank, a retired cat burglar, has two grown kids who are concerned he can no longer live alone. They are tempted to place him in a nursing home until Frank's son chooses a different option: against the old man's wishes, he buys Frank a walking, talking humanoid robot programmed to improve his physical and mental health. What follows is an often hilarious and somewhat heartbreaking story about finding friends and family in the most unexpected places. -- (C) Samuel Goldwyn*

The Twilight Zone (1960) : A thing about machines

Science fiction

Numero 9 : *A rag doll that awakens in a postapocalyptic future holds the key to humanity's salvation.*

The Dead don't die (2019) *The peaceful town of Centerville finds itself battling a zombie horde as the dead start rising from their graves. A strange and funny zombie movie (good even when you don't like zombie movies)*

Summaries mostly taken from the website Rotten Tomatoes <https://www.rottentomatoes.com/> and Imdb. Some sentences are from Wikipedia.

Other suggestions

- Hundreds of old (even very ol) films available in streaming or download, for your general knowledge

https://archive.org/search.php?query=collection%3Afeature_films&sort=-%2Fadditional%2Fitem%2Fdownloads

A voir aussi sur Netflix (pour ceux qui l'ont déjà)

Precious

Whiplash

The Pianist (New Zealand)

Midnight Express (dur)

Django

Snowden

Million Dollar baby

Dirty Dancing

The Blues Brothers